

**Norfolk Reentry Council Meeting Minutes**  
**January 29, 2016**  
**Workforce Development Center**  
**9:00 a.m.**

**Welcome:**

Kathy Hall extended greetings to members and guests present. Members and guests introduced themselves.

**Presentation:**

Dept. For The Blind & Vision Impaired (DBVI)

DeAngelo White gave an overview of the services provided by the Dept. For The Blind & Vision Impaired (DBVI). To be eligible for their services you must be blind, deafblind, or low vision. Their goal is for the client to reach their desired level for education, employment, & independence. Questions were addressed. Handouts were distributed to all present.

**Program Updates:**

- **Child Support Enforcement-** Joy Sullivan gave an update on the Arrears Program (very successful last year). She also discussed Access Litigation Visitation Program/Prison Re-Entry Presentations.
- **DHS Programs** - Garry Cofield gave an update on programs offered at NDHS. He gave an overview about the Family and Community Engagement (F.A.C.E.) services. He also shared that the Prisoner Re-Entry T.E.A.M. had assisted a 78 year old male with getting his voting rights restored in Virginia and he will be voting in the upcoming Primary election. DHS maintains it mentoring program, and currently there are 8 mentors. The Supplemental, Nutrition, Assistance, Program, for Employment, and Training (SNAPET) is going well. DHS continue to provide Safe Haven PEER Support (CO-ED) to approx. 19 participants & the women's PEER Support (W.E.L.L.) to all returning citizens.

**Institutional Updates:**

- **Indian Creek** - Ms. Jadelyn Hughes gave an update about SafeServ & Forklift Certification Program. 100% DMV ID & Birth Certificate distribution.
- **St. Brides** - Joshua Coleman gave an overview of their services. 2015 was a productive year. They have a factual-based annual report prepared which will be shared to everyone at council meeting by email. Leadership Seminar 1/20/16 and the next one will be held on 2/24/16. Resource Fair 6/16/16. They also have vocational rehabilitation & counseling services and will be partnering with DBVI.
- **Greensville** - Leo Akujuobi gave an update about their services. Some of the activities were Resource Awareness Week & Fair 11/2015, DMV ID, Forklift Certification, Food Service Certification, 3 Cognitive Communities, & Resource Rooms (in the units). Resource Fair will be held on 4/28/16.
- **Newport News Re-Entry Council** - Ms. Peggy Howard stated the next Re-Entry Council meeting is 2/1/16. Mental Health Court is now available in Newport News.

- **Probation & Parole** - Kathy Hall gave an update about services. The T4C class @ Norfolk City Jail with NDHS & Probation & Parole started on 1/25/16. There are 15 participants. Family Reunification Seminar was held on 1/26/16, there were 20 participants. Recently started a new T4C class @ Probation & Parole.
- **Greater Universal Transitional Services (G.U.T.S.)** - Ms. Lateefah Robinson gave an overview of services provided by their organization. They provide Transitional Housing (8 beds), Job Placement, Mental Health Services, & Medication Services. No sex offenders. Contact Ms. Robinson 324-6182 or Ms. Battle 301-357-7810. Address: 3217 Portsmouth Blvd. 23701. Probation & Parole or D.O.C. has to make the referral.
- **Commonwealth Attorney's Office** - Krista Fulton stated the annual Crime Prevention Awards Ceremony will be held on 3/21/16 @ Norfolk Doubletree by Hilton cost \$30. Nominations must be received by 2/23/16. Information packets were available to those present. Norfolk Drug Court 2/8/16. Norfolk Veterans Court. Fatherhood Breakfast 6/4/16. 3 Part Addiction Series 1/26/16 (1<sup>st</sup>), 2/23/16 (2<sup>nd</sup>), 3/21/16 (3<sup>rd</sup>).

#### **Workgroups:**

- **Employment** - Joy Sullivan gave an update about Rapidgate. The information will be in a pamphlet available by next month. Spotlight Series Workshop will be held by EEOC on 3/1/16.
- **Faith Based and Community Initiatives**-Madonna Flores gave an update on the workgroup activities. Mentoring (5 churches) volunteered to participate. Resource Guide Booklet, 25 churches information will be collected before printing. Next meeting 2/8/16 @ 10 a.m. room 303 @WDC.
- **Juvenile Reentry** - Madonna Flores stated the Pare Guide for Teens is currently being finalized, hopefully will be available at the next meeting. They are working on conducting Parent Focus Groups in which ODU graduate students will assist, first group planned for March 2016. Next meeting is 2/9/16 @ 1 p.m. room 208 @ WDC.

The next Reentry Council meeting is Friday 3/18/16 @ 9 a.m.

Meeting Adjourned @ 11 a.m.

Sheila London